

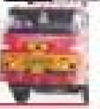
2bU! — Summer lovin': Dedicated to mothers who taught us to love

News / A6 — Withdrawal of Erap support still hounds Reyes in confirmation hearing

News / A2 — Labor groups warn government of 'war' over wages

Across / A17 — Court orders hotel in Puerto Princesa to pay P5M in electric bills

Motoring — Over 2 road 'terrorists' spotted every minute



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Local Reds accuse China of abandoning Maoist cause

Ilocos Sur cop chief sacked over shooting of newsman

By Luige A. del Puerto and Armand N. Nocum

Sacrifice

EDITORIAL

RP most murderous place for journalists



Int'l media groups hit gov't for inaction

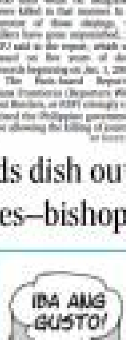
Survey says the poor becoming desperate

Group says 88% of taxes went to pay debt



'Jueteng' lords dish out ₱13B in bribes—bishop

By Philip C. Tubeza



Senior cop not keen on promotion

By Luige A. del Puerto

5 more bishops back call to oust GMA

By Christian V. Esguerra, Philip C. Tubeza and Christine O. Avendaño

Labor warns of 'war' over wages

By Gil C. Cabacungan and Jerome Aning

Leeway for wage boards

Middle ground

Non-negotiable

Senators close to breakthrough on VAT bill

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and TJ Burgonio

Alert up as Phivolcs tells Kanlaon folk to flee

By Blanche S. Rivera



DOJ tax probers summon Regine

By Armand N. Nocum

AFP hails EU court's junking of Joma plea

Sainthood for Fr. Gallardo pushed

By Fe B. Zamora

Body of slain toddler brought back from US

By Nikko Dizon

THE BODY of a 2-year-old girl who was stabbed to death by an uncle in a condominium in San Jose, California has been brought back to the Philippines, a statement from the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

The family of Francesca Louise Pagulo arrived last Saturday after she was killed allegedly by her father's brother Emil using a kitchen knife on April 16.

Pagulo's father Enrico sustained stab wounds when tried to fight it out with Emil to save his daughter.

Enrico, his wife, and three children had just migrated to the United States and had just arrived in San Jose a few weeks before the tragic killing.

Emil's lawyer, public defender Peggy Banks, is studying the possibility of an insanity defense considering that the suspect has a documented case of insanity, Philippine Consul General Maria Rowena Sanchez to San Francisco said in the statement.

Fetus found in Catholic university

The body of an early-term fetus was found Monday inside the first floor comfort room of the biology building of St. Bernard University in Sampaloc, Manila.

The fetus, which is approximated to be 3 to 4 months old, was wrapped in a pink plastic bag when janitress Meldy Perez discovered it at about 9:30 a.m. while she was cleaning the toilets.

She immediately informed the president of the school's Joan of Arc Nursing Students Association, Andrea Felizardo who, in turn, called the police. Students, faculty and administration staff were shocked following the incident, primarily because of the school's reputation of being a premiere Catholic university.

According to police, the fetus could have been left by a student or a member of the university's personnel. Emilda Nepomuceno, SJ, Dean of the College of Nursing of St. Bernard University has expressed the school's full cooperation in the investigation.

5 more bishops back call to oust Macapagal

[illegible]



CRUZ



INIGUEZ



LABAYEN



TOBIAS

Wake-up call

[illegible]

Mounting complaints

[illegible]

Leftists agree

[illegible]

House reaction

[illegible]

Bull's eye

[illegible]

Group says 88% of taxes ...

Corrections

[illegible]

[illegible]

Squeezing the poor

[illegible]

Kissing might give you bad teeth—DOH

WHO to use Internet vs counterfeit drugs

The Daily Gospel

Supreme Court Doctrines

Abat won't get off lightly next time, says AFP

Red Cross rescues conjoined twin girls



RESCUED ANGELS: Conjoined twins Angela and Angelo Mae ...

CONFIRMATION WOES

Edsa II, Erap hound Reyes at CA

Woman accuses Gonzalez of graft



SPORTS

Welcoat seizes share of lead via OT thriller





RP most murderous place for journalists



JOURNALIST groups demonstrating include the Philippine Center for Photojournalism, Press Photographers of the Philippines, Defense Press Corps, Metro Manila Radio Reporters Organization, Freedom Fund for Filipino Journalists, Center for Community Journalism, Antonio Zumel for Press Freedom, Concerned Artists of the Philippines and College Editors Guild of the Philippines.

Palace says report unfair, exaggerated

Unidentified masterminds

Enormous problem

'Culture of impunity reigns'

Human chain

Citizens' last recourse

Ilocos Sur cop chief sacked over shooting of newsman

Lomibao visit

3 possible motives

Suspected mastermind

Confession

Madame

2nd time

Major concern

Local Reds accuse China of abandoning armed struggle

Feeling orphaned

Diplomatic ties

China funds vs local reds



GRADUATES of the New People's Army's military training course ...

The WORLD

29 killed in Afghan ammo dump blast

Conspiracy vs Jackson's young accuser bared

Aussie minister doubts release of Iraq hostage

Israeli Cabinet minister quits in protest over Gaza pullout

African polio outbreak leaps to Indonesia

Indian troops kill 90 militants in Kashmir operations

US F-18 jet crashes in Iraq; one still missing

US soldier admits guilt in Iraq prison abuse



ENGLAND



DEBATE OVER DATE

Italy hits US over its Iraqi checkpoints

Historic British rocket makes final trip to space

Gas explosion at ice cream factory kills 25 in Pakistan



Norwegian plans rivals to Nobel science prizes

Japan premier apologizes over WW II Dutch POWs

Rice: Nokor missile test 'provocative'



MOST BEAUTIFUL MUMMY

US initiates deportation of WW II criminal

Vietnam to test bird flu vaccine

INQUIRER

OPINION



Sacrifice

EDITORIAL

Pinoys to drug firms: 'Maawa naman kayo'

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Waiting for Godot

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Surviving from default

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



Myth of press freedom

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



Modern Philippine inventions

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Beyond 'Miss Saigon'

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan



Ethics in entertainment media

LETTERS

A beloved figure of our generation

Price control on drugs needed

Oil price rollback, not martial law

Dark words

Across the NATION

These are your feedbacks [illegible] Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

ROUNDUP

Army officer wounded in clash

DAVAO CITY—An Army officer was wounded in a clash between government soldiers and the New People's Army (NPA) in Carage, Davao Oriental, the military said Tuesday. Major Roberto Dumalahay, chief of the Army's [illegible] Civil Relations Group in Southern Mindanao, said the clash took place [illegible]. Dumalahay said the victim, 2Lt. [illegible] Macalam, a member of the 67th Infantry Battalion, was leading a team of soldiers in [illegible] around 11:30 a.m. that day when they encountered more than 30 heavily armed rebels. The rebels, he said, retreated as reinforcement from the [illegible] Provincial Police Mobile Group, led by Senior Insp. Angel [illegible], and the Carage police station, led by Insp. Alfredo [illegible], arrived. Macalam was brought to the [illegible] District Hospital for treatment and was later transferred to the Camp Panacan hospital in Davao City.

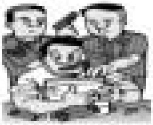
Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Police officer drowns in resort

[illegible], Albay—A retired police officer died after he drowned in a resort here on Sunday morning. Senior Insp. Leonides Baldecana, town chief of police, said [illegible] of Daraga, Albay, along with his family and friends, went to [illegible] Resort in Barangay [illegible] for a picnic and swimming. While the victim was swimming, his companions noticed that he was drowning and immediately came to his rescue. [illegible] was rushed to the [illegible] District Hospital in Tabaco City but was pronounced dead on arrival. Baldecana said [illegible] suffered an apparent heart attack due to [illegible].

Jun [illegible], PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Bomb materials found in raid



CALAMBA, Laguna—Members of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) in Cavite confiscated almost two kilograms of ammonium nitrate used in manufacturing dynamites, [illegible] pieces of blasting caps and 150 pieces of [illegible] cord during a raid on a house in [illegible], Cavite over the weekend. Supt. Mario [illegible], CIDG-Cavite director, said the team swooped down on the residence of [illegible] on Saturday after receiving reports that a shipment of explosive chemicals from Cebu was delivered in the area. He said the operation was covered by a search warrant issued by Judge [illegible] of the Branch [illegible] of the [illegible] Regional Trial Court.

[illegible], PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Fire hits Mount Cristobal

LUCENA CITY—A six-hour fire burned a [illegible]-hectare portion of Mount Cristobal on Saturday afternoon, said [illegible], Dolores municipal environment and natural resources officer. The fire started at around [illegible] p.m. and lasted until [illegible] p.m. The forest blaze was caused by either slash-and-burn farmers and honeybee gatherers, he said.

[illegible] Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

RP to stay on high alert for bird flu, says DOH

DAVAO CITY—While other countries are reeling from bird flu, the Philippine government wants to make sure it has more than enough measures to prevent the virus from entering the country.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said while the country remains clear of the virus strain that has hit neighboring Asian countries and parts of the world, the spread of the virus, however, remains to be a threat to avian [illegible].

"The threat is already there, although we [illegible]," Dayrit said.

Aside from the Philippines, only Singapore and Brunei remain free from the spread of the bird flu, according to Dayrit.

A new measure was introduced during Monday's Bird Flu Summit here.

The measure will involve the local government units and the private sector.

"We want to alert the LGUs," he said.

He said the country will be divided into seven or nine zones, so that when one zone is affected, say Mindanao, it will be contained or isolated from the rest of the zones.

This approach, which will be jointly undertaken by the Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Agriculture (DA), was dubbed Avian Influenza Protection Program (AIPP).

Mindanao, Dayrit said, is close to the potential danger of being exposed to the virus as this is near to affected countries like Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam.

But he said the country is still prepared.

[illegible], a representative of the World Health Organization, warned against importation of live animals from the affected countries.

He said it would be difficult to stop the outbreak once it enters the country.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap also echoed Dayrit's call in taking steps to protect the agriculture sector from the onslaught of the virus.

But while the outbreak is a misery to other countries, the Philippines looked at it as a window of opportunity for economic improvements.

[illegible], chair of the Philippine Poultry Export Board, said because of the bird flu, the demand for chicken from the Philippines went up.

[illegible] said Japan has been demanding more chicken meat from the Philippines since the outbreak. *[illegible], PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Court orders hotel to pay ₱5M in electric bills

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—The court has ordered Northwest Tourism, the company that owns Asiaworld Resort Hotel, to pay the Palawan Electric Cooperative close to ₱5 million for unpaid electricity charges as of Oct. 5, 2002.

Aside from the electricity charges, Northwest is also obliged to pay ₱1 million in attorney's fees and ₱100,000 for litigation expenses.

According to the decision handed down by Judge [illegible] of the Regional Trial Court Branch 47, Northwest became a member of Paleco in 1998 when it started operating in Puerto Princesa.

However, the hotel had failed to pay its electric bills which, as of Oct. 5, 2002, had reached about ₱5 million.

On June 2001, Northwest was able to make partial payments to Paleco.

From November 2001 to May 2002, representatives of both would [illegible].

On July 31, 2002, Paleco and Northwest signed a memorandum of agreement authorizing Paleco, through general manager [illegible], to sell and use as collateral for a loan a piece of property owned by Northwest in [illegible], Puerto Princesa City so that the company could pay its bills.

The agreement also stated that Northwest would pay Paleco from the proceeds of the loan.

But the agreement lapsed without Northwest giving the authorization to Paleco.

In October 2002, after failing to get anything from Northwest, Paleco cut the power supply of the hotel.

The cooperative later sued the hotel for collection and applied for a temporary restraining order.

As a result, the court ordered Northwest, represented by its vice president for administration, Angel [illegible], to permanently refrain from selling or encumbering the property in [illegible], except with the consent of Paleco.

The court also ordered Northwest to execute an authorization allowing Paleco to use as collateral the land to pay loans and to pay Paleco from the proceeds of the loan.

It also gave an option to Northwest to pay Paleco from any of its funds, whichever comes earlier.

Northwest bought the property, which used to be the Rafols Hotel, from the Rafols family in 1996.

The property later became the Asiaworld Resort Hotel, which was the only five-star hotel in Palawan.

It closed down two or three years ago without clear reasons.

[illegible], PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Benguet farmers still wary of veggie imports

Judge delays decision on shooting of reporter



INQUIRER Northern Luzon



A BAGUIO resident enjoys a summer splash at Burnham Park.

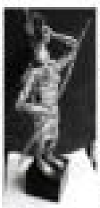
Is Baguio City losing its allure?

TRAVEL agencies nowadays find it difficult promoting Baguio City, the summer capital, as part of a travel tour.

Bad publicity

Artist offers work for typhoon victims

WHILE leafing through the Inquirer's pages recently, Baguio-based artist Benhur Villanueva noticed a photograph of donors to the Sagip Bahay project of the Catholic Media Network and the Inquirer for typhoon victims of Infanta, Quezon.



"WORKING Mother," bronze sculpture by Benhur Villanueva.

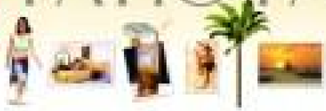
Desiree Caluza

Bulacan folk block dumping of garbage

Soldiers dig up remains of NPA guerrillas







'Jueteng' lords dish out ₱13B in bribes–bishop

110 percent sure

₱20-M payola monthly

Need to validate data

Arroyo counter-attacks

Are they ghosts?



'A good man'

Seeking Jose Pidal

Unholy Trinity

'Untouchable'

Senior cop refuses promotion

Major reshuffle

Mosqueda keen on retiring

Other movements

Survey says the poor becoming desperate

Significant increase

Family source of hope

Different pattern

Jobs



METRO

EZ2 7 22 · SUERTRES 3 9 6 · SIX DIGIT 6 6 4 6 8 1

6/42 Lotto/Vis-Min 9 16 25 32 37 41 ₱14,625,935.10 · SWEEPSTAKES ₱100,000.00

Warden okays gang's party

Shipment causes stir in Manila port area



A BOMB-SNIFFING dog sits beside the suspicious sacks of white powder as Coast Guard Vice Admiral Arturo Gosingan presents the cargo to media.

Suspicious

INVESTMENT SCHEME

BFAD exec sued for estafa

Ramos slay probers assure justice for family

Ex-NBI agent files libel, slander raps vs Rosebud

MARIKINA BANK ROB

Police say watchman led morning heist

Taguig City pa needs help for newborn quadruplets



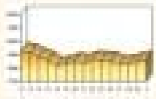
Treasury bill rates continue to slide

Globe posts flat growth in Q1 profit

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Shares close 0.37% higher

Neda urges prudence in planned wage hike

'It has to be properly calibrated so as not to be inflationary'

BUSINESS

Hike in airlines' fuel surcharge OKd

₱2.5-B sale of bay property to cut Belle Corp. debt

Ilocos holds business summit

The coup that never happened

MR. BEARBULL

Alex Nathan



DISCLOSURES

Globe posts flat . . .

Flight to seaside quality

COCKTALES

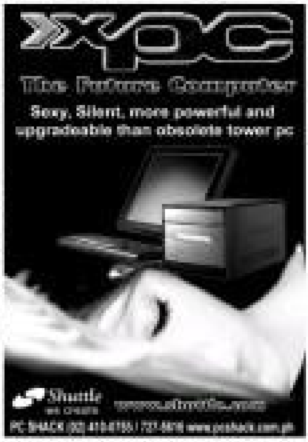
Victor C. Agustin

BOI approves P9M auto, machine parts project

12 pre-need firms do not have dealer's licenses, says SEC exec



Bear, Stearns confident in RP despite fiscal woes



Bearbull

Treasury



fect prices of basic goods

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE RECENTLY approved power rate hike of the National Power Corp. will have no immediate and serious impact on the prices of basic goods and prime commodities, according to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Napocor has announced that it will increase rates by an average of 36.25 centavos a kWh. The new rates will be reflected in the May billing of its clients.

In turn, the Manila Electric Co., Napocor's biggest customer, will pass on the increase in rates and charge its customers an additional 21 to 22 centavos.

The higher rates will be reflected in the June billing of end-consumers.

Trade Secretary Juan B. Santos said that based on the latest analysis of the DTI's Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection, power rate consisted only up to 2.8 percent of the total production component of most manufactured products.

"Due to such small cost of production attributed to electricity costs, any impact on retail prices will be hardly felt," Santos said.

"(S)hould there be an impact, it would only take effect later than when the increased rates appear on the monthly bill," he said. "Retailers should replenish their existing inventory at current prices."

In a related development, Subic EnerZone Corp., the power utility serving the Subic freeport area, yesterday said that its customers would pay 10 centavos less per kilowatt-hour after it successfully cut its systems loss by half to an average of 7.87 percent starting last March.

DTI/ BT

Bangko Sentral raises BOP surplus goal by 84%

6 foreign firms keen on Toledo copper project revival

UnionBank Q1 profit up 58%

DTI: Napocor ...

LIFESTYLE



Cupid is a geek



SASHA and Dominique

No girly-girly stuff



Love in the library





Coming home

By Jay Beltran

LIKE AN orphan seeking shelter, I walked and wandered, looking for a place to stay, a place to call my home.



Jill and Jay

Through endless dark, narrow alleyways, in the city and under the bridge, I spent my cold nights huddling, embracing myself.

I walked and walked, at times losing all hope I'd ever find that place, but the morning sun would always remind me to walk again, and when the day came to an end, when the sun had and the lights had gone out, my tired restless body and soul would feel the emptiness again.

Some days, some nights, someone will take me in, offer a loving embrace that told me now I was home at last—a blanket of warm love that would soon fade and throw me out of the door.

Until, at last, your hand caught mine, and gently you showed me the way in. You whispered into my ear and told, "I'll never let you go." You welcomed me with a warm embrace and led me to your heart, a place I could finally call my home.

At last! No one's going anywhere this time...



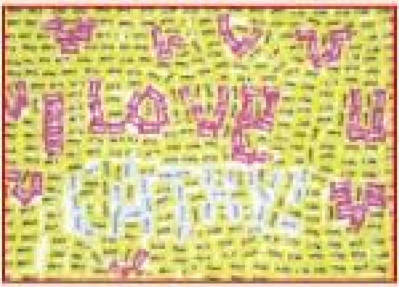
From the drawing board of Michael Domingo



Vart Wilson and Michelle Cu's website at http://cookie-sweetie.tripod.com



Michelle Loslin's creative expression of love

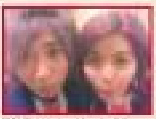


Cool proposal

Opposites attract



Twins



Sealed with an accidental kiss





Destined to meet



[illegible]



Her hero

[illegible]

LIFESTYLE

Love reborn



DWIGHT and his...

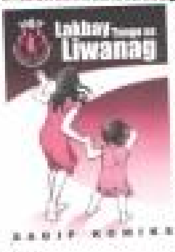
By Dorean Quiaoit



DOREAN'S parents

Refuge for the abused





Winners of 2bU!'s Valentine Blowout

Win 'American Idol' goodies!

Slim wonder

One of the hottest gadgets in the market today is the XDA II Mini from O2 Asia, the world's smallest PDA phone



10 new Asian documentaries